



Department of Medical Assistance Services
600 East Broad Street, Suite 1300
Richmond, Virginia 23219

www.dmas.virginia.gov

MEDICAID MEMO

TO: All Pharmacy Providers Participating in the Virginia
Medical Assistance Programs

FROM: Patrick W. Finnerty, Director
Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS)

MEMO Special
DATE 04/01/2006

SUBJECT: **Increased Dispensing Fee for Brand Name Drug Products – May 1,
2006**

The purpose of this memorandum is to announce an increase to the dispensing fees paid to pharmacy providers for brand name drug products by Virginia Medicaid and FAMIS. As required by the *2005 Appropriations Act*, effective May 1, 2006. The dispensing fee for brand name drug products will be \$4.00. This increase from the current dispensing fee of \$3.75 will be applied to all pharmacy claims with dates of service on or after May 1, 2006. This increase does not pertain to clients enrolled in Medicaid contracted Managed Care Organizations. The dispensing fee of \$4.00 for generic drugs will remain the same. **Pharmacy providers may contact the First Health Services Clinical Call Center with questions regarding this change at 1-800-932-6648 (available 24 hours a day, seven days a week).**

ELIGIBILITY AND CLAIMS STATUS INFORMATION

DMAS offers a web-based Internet option (ARS) to access information regarding Medicaid or FAMIS eligibility, claims status, check status, service limits, prior authorization, and pharmacy prescriber identification. The website address to use to enroll for access to this system is <http://virginia.fhsc.com>. The MediCall voice response system will provide the same information and can be accessed by calling 1-800-884-9730 or 1-800-772-9996. Both options are available at no cost to the provider.

COPIES OF MANUALS

DMAS publishes electronic and printable copies of its Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda on the DMAS website at www.dmas.virginia.gov. Refer to the "DMAS Content Menu" column on the left-hand side of the DMAS web page for the "Provider Services" link, which takes you to the "Manuals, Memos and Communications" link. This link opens up a page

that contains all of the various communications to providers, including Provider Manuals and Medicaid Memoranda. The Internet is the most efficient means to receive and review current provider information. If you do not have access to the Internet or would like a paper copy of a manual, you can order it by contacting Commonwealth-Martin at 1-804-780-0076. A fee will be charged for the printing and mailing of the manuals and manual updates requested.

PROVIDER E-NEWSLETTER SIGN-UP

DMAS is pleased to inform providers about the creation of a new Provider E-Newsletter. The intent of this electronic newsletter is to inform, communicate, and share important program information with providers. Covered topics will include changes in claims processing, common problems with billing, new programs or changes in existing programs, and other information that may directly affect providers. If you would like to receive the electronic newsletter, please sign up at www.dmas.virginia.gov/pr-provider_newletter.asp.

Please note that the Provider E-Newsletter is not intended to take the place of Medicaid Memos, Medicaid Provider Manuals, or any other official correspondence from DMAS.